

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04192 271759Z

ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 OES-07 SP-02 L-01 SS-14

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7732

INFO USUN NEW YORK 4927

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4192

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR UN AORG APER

SUBJECT: INCB - SELECTION OF NEW BOARD SECRETARY

REF: GENEVA 4087

1. BOARD SECRETARY STPECZYNSKI REQUESTED AND RECEIVED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS BOARD TO URGE RECONSIDERATION OF ITS DECISION TO DENY EXTENSION HIS TERM OF OFFICE BEYOND RETIREMENT AGE (AUGUST 1968). HE DELIVERED APPEAL TO THIS EFFECT MAY 26. UPON ITS CONCLUSION, BOARD IN CLOSED SESSION DETERMINED THAT IN ABSENCE OF ANY NEW FACTS IT WOULD PERMIT PREVIOUS DECISION TO STAND.

2. BOARD THEN WENT ON TO DISCUSS WHETHER IT SHOULD RECOMMEND SUCCESSOR TO SYG. ALTHOUGH SOME MEMBERS APPEARED FAVORABLE TO POSTPONING DECISION, CONSENSUS INDICATED DESIRE TO NOTIFY SYG OF BOARD'S CHOICE AT THIS TIME.

3. SELECTIONS COMMITTEE HAD SUGGESTED TWO INDIVIDUALS AS QUALIFIED FOR POSITION, MR. DAVIEWS (UK) AND MR. A BAH
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04192 271759Z

(TUNISIA). DAVIES WITHDREW HIS NAME WHEN HE PERCEIVED THAT PROSPECT OF CONTEST BETWEEN HIMSELF AND BAH
PROBABLY RESULT OFVER SHORT TERM IN POSTPONEMENT OF ISSUE AND POSSIBLY OVER LONG TERM IN EXTENSION OF INCUMBENT. PRESIDENT REUTER POINTED OUT THAT BAH WAS SENIOR MEMBER OF SECRETARIAT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF SERVICE AND WOULD MEET BOARD'S PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR PROMOTION

FROM WITHIN. OTHER MEMBERS NOTED HE WAS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND FROM AFRICA.

4. PRESIDENT REUTER FOUND CONSENSUS FAVORING BAHI'S APPOINTMENT AS BOAR SECRETARY TO SUCCEED INCUMBENT AND UNDERTOOK TO INFORM SYG.

5. COMMENT. RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM, ALTHOUGH NOT PERFECT, IS PROBABLY BEST WE COULD REASONABLY ANTICIPATE UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES. BAHI IS MILD-MANNERED INDIVIDUAL WHOSE LEADERSHIP QUALITIES HAVE YET TO BE TESTED. HE DOES APPEAR SINCERE, RELIABLE AND WELL-DISPOSED TOWARDS U.S. LATTER FACTOR MAY BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT WHEN INCB SECRETARIAT MOVES TO VIENNA; THERE WILL PROBABLY BE LARGE TURNOVER OF STAFF, PRESENTING US WITH OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE OVERALL QUALITY OF STAFFING OF SECRETARIAT. SORENSON

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TAGS: SNAR, AORG, APER, US, SZ, UN
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